

CIO Council Meeting Minutes Meeting Held August 31, 2005 Albert Coates Government Complex

Attendees: Randy Barnes (Revenue), Dan Kempton (Industrial Commission), Kathie Austin (GA-FRD), David McCall (TEK Systems), Keith Werner (Ciber), Tanya Stauffer (Analysts International), Jonathan Womer (OSBM), Jim Dolan (OSBM), Dianne Enright (DHHS-DPH), Don Nattress (OSP), Paul Saksa (Auditor), Lee Mandell (NCLM), Larry Brewer (DOI), Bill Golden (DST), Ben McLawhorn (OSC), Smitty Locklear (DOA), Bruce Garner (SOS), Bob Brinson (DOC), Greg Jones (CC&PS), Nancy Lowe (DJJDP), Robin Murray (AOC), George Fenton (Cultural Resources), Karen Tomczak (DHHS), Mark Paxton (DOT), Julie Batchelor (OSC), Michael King (Commerce), Michael Guilford (OAH), and Ben McLawhorn (OSC), and David Rossi (ITS).

Chairman **Randy Barnes** called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

Randy announced that Smitty Locklear will be taking the minutes. Someone is needed to take the February minutes. Randy introduced George Fenton (Cultural Resources), Greg Jones (CC&PS), and Robin Murray (AOC) as representing their Agency's CIO. The previous month's minutes were approved and the members of the CIOC Planning were announced.

David Rossi gave a report on ESRI-GIS (Environmental Systems Research Institute). They have a 5 year agreement with ITS for 3 million dollars. The first and second year has been budgeted at \$600,000 per year. Upgrade to the current software version is available to agencies. Technical support is also available. 75 licenses has been acquired by ITS. Availability to Local Government Agencies is available at GSA prices. ESRI will provide media distribution. 5 year training prices have been locked. Training classes will hold up to 16 students. ESRI will provide training in Charlotte for \$404.00 per day. There will be 250 credits for web based training. For more information, please contact Jenny Elias from ITS at 431-1628, or Mike Diar from ESRI.

Randy asked how the product works. It was explained that this is the replacement for the old ARC-GIS software. **Julia Harold** from DENR explained that this is data mapping with geographical information. **Randy** asked if there were plans to present enterprise solutions to agencies in advance of the acquisitions. There were further discussion about training classes (intro and advanced). **Lee Mandell** stated that the use of ESRI is still somewhat difficult. **Randy** stated that maybe a special presentation from ESRI and SAS about their products would be helpful for the Council. **Nancy Lowe** asked about the operating costs. Arc Pad is a cost along with the use of a laptop. **Jonathan Womer** stated that the ESRI cost was in the IT fund.

Jonathan spoke briefly about the IT surveys. The State Budget Office is waiting on a packet of information in order to complete their analysis. After completion, OSBM plans on setting down with the agencies at the end of September. David and Jonathan have recently hired two additional staff. OSBM will be making recommendations to the General Assembly next January. **Randy** asked what happened to the contractor to state employee conversion form. **Jonathan**

stated that they would have to complete the evaluation, do the analysis, and make recommendations. Meetings will then be scheduled. All this takes time.

Don Nattress spoke briefly about career banding. We are currently between the old and new IT classifications. There will be new rates for IT managers in a month or two. **Don** added that Pam Bowling is working with him. **Randy** stated that there should be a breakdown by functionality. Call Don or Randy for more information. **Nancy Lowe** stated that Business Analysts positions are still not specified properly. **Don** said that they are still looking at them.

Nancy addressed IT Training. She stated that Andy Billingsly from the McKimmon Center is eager to work with the CIOC for discount rates and create more training classes. **Randy** informed everyone that Nancy is chair of the CIOC Training Work Group Committee. She asked how the members felt about this initiative. There were no objections. **Lee** stated that there would be better rates for group training. **Don** stated that there are Project Manager User groups for each University and that they may have some good ideas on Project Management training. A good contact would be Libby Evans of UNC Chapel Hill. A question was asked about state agencies funding certifications. **Don** responded that there are no state policies for funding certifications. This decision is up to each agency. Call Nancy Lowe if you have a special training interest. **Lee** stated that maybe this committee could coordinate the ESRI training initiative.

Randy addressed the bulk purchase initiative. She asked if anyone has heartburn to share with the process. Communications with the agencies are not good. It seems to be a one way communication from ITS to the agencies. **Nancy** noted that a meeting between ITS and Randy & Mark is needed to discuss the issues. **Randy** noted the SAS contract as an example. **Lee** stated that there is no forum for a two way communication. The current process is more of an update. **Randy** remarked that maybe the CIOC is not the proper forum. **Bob Brinson** stated that DOC has some funding for the ESAP project but not sure if they have enough. **Randy** stated that problems occur when funding IT initiatives. We have a 5 year project with a 2 year funding cycle. **Nancy** mentioned a problem with ebilling where there are duplicate line entries. A Microsoft MLA was discussed. **David** explained of the difficulties ITS have had with the negotiations. **Lee** informed everyone that there is a much cheaper alternative to MS Office called SYMDIS. **Randy** is going to ask Secretary Tolson to speak to the CIOC as a member of the ITAB. Lee is also a member. The CIOC email list was discussed and will ask Denny or Wendy to update.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25am.